

FMRI Analysis

Experiment Design



Scanning



Pre-Processing



Individual Subject Analysis

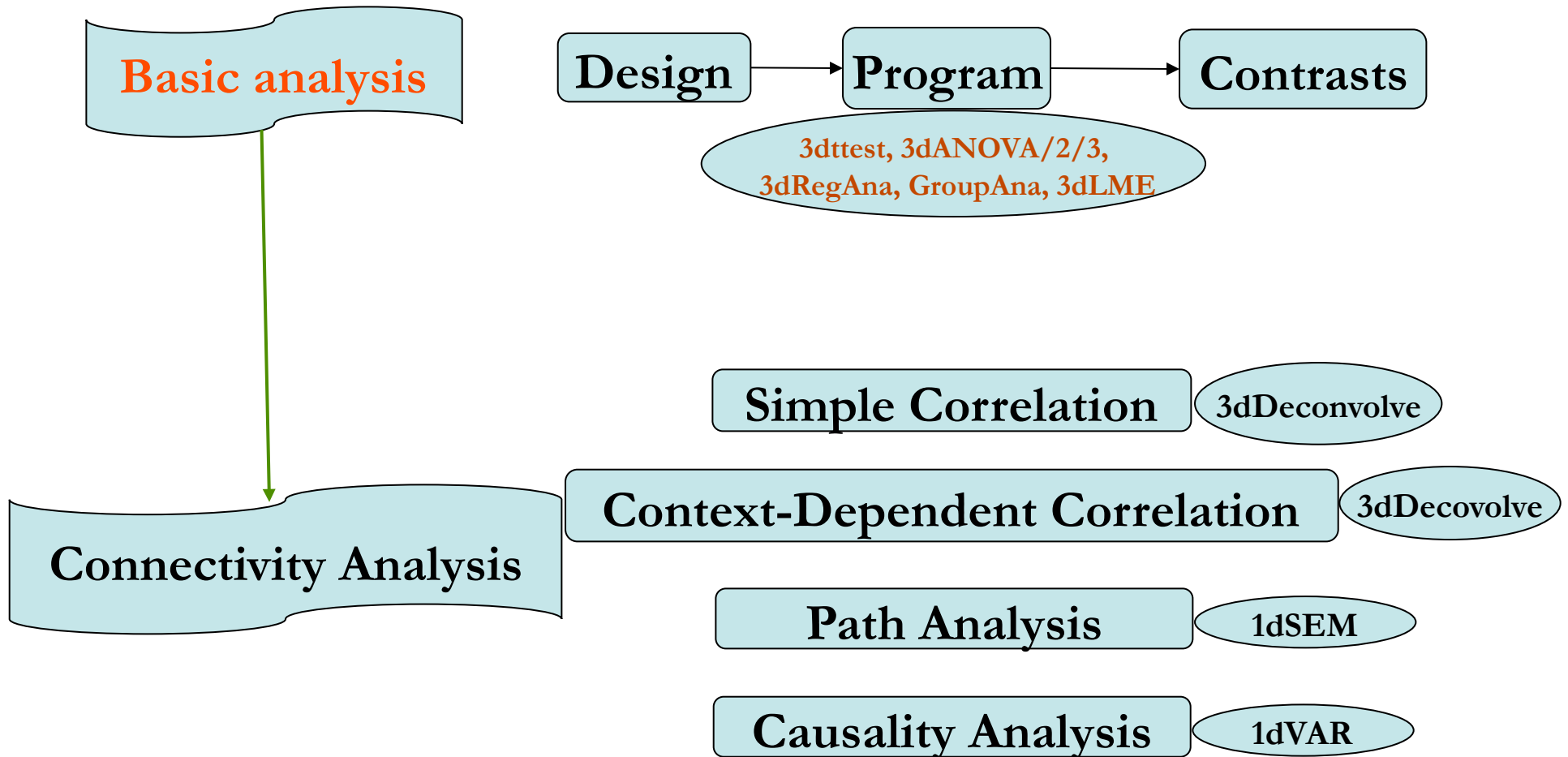


Group Analysis



Post-Processing

Group Analysis



- Group Analysis: Why and how?

- 📌 Group analysis

- ⌞ Make general conclusions about some population, *e.g.*,
 - Do men and women differ on responding to fear?
 - What regions are related to happiness, sad, love, faith, empathy, etc.?
 - What differs when a person listens to classical music vs. rock 'n' roll?
 - ⌞ Partition/untangle data variability into various effects

- 📌 Why two tiers of analysis: individual and then group?

- ⌞ No perfect approach to combining both into a batch analysis
 - ⌞ Each subject may have slightly different design or missing data
 - ⌞ High computation cost
 - ⌞ Usually we take β 's (% signal change) to group analysis
 - Within-subject variation relatively small compared to cross-subject

- Group Analysis: Basic concepts

- ☞ Variables

- ↙ Dependent: percent signal changes (β 's)

- ↙ Independent

- factors: a categorization (variable) of conditions/tasks/subjects

- Covariates (IQ, age)

- ☞ Fixed factor

- ↙ Treated as a fixed variable to be estimated in the model

- Categorization of experiment conditions (mode: Face/House)

- Group of subjects (male/female, normal/patient)

- ↙ All levels of the factor are of interest and included for replications among subjects

- ↙ Fixed in the sense of inference

- apply only to the specific levels of the factor, e.g., the response to face/house is well-defined

- don't extend to other potential levels that might have been included, e.g., the response to face/house doesn't say anything about the response to music

- Group Analysis: Basic concepts

- ☞ Random factor

- ⌞ Exclusively refers to **subject** in FMRI
 - ⌞ Treated as a random variable in the model
 - random effects uniquely attributable to each subject: $N(0, \sigma^2)$: σ^2 to be estimated
 - ⌞ Each subject is of NO interest
 - ⌞ Random in the sense of inference
 - subjects serve as a random sample of a population
 - this is why we recruit a lot of subjects for a study
 - inferences can be generalized to a population
 - we usually have to set a long list of criteria when recruiting subjects (right-handed, healthy, age 20-40, native English speaker, etc.)

- ☞ Covariates

- ⌞ Confounding/nuisance effects
 - Continuous variables of no interest
 - May cause spurious effects or decrease power if not modeled
 - Some measures about subject: age, IQ, cross-conditions/tasks behavior data, etc.

- Group Analysis: Types

- ☞ Fixed: factor, analysis/model/effects

- Fixed-effects analysis (sometimes): averaging among a few subjects

- ☞ Non-parametric tests

- ☞ Mixed design

- Mixed design: crossed [e.g., AXBXC] and nested [e.g., BXC(A)]

- Psychologists: Within-subject (repeated measures) / between-subjects factor

- ☞ Mixed-effects analysis (aka random-effects)

- ↙ ANOVA: contains both types of factors: both inter/intra-subject variances

- Crossed, e.g., AXBXC

- Nested, e.g., BXC(A)

- ↙ ANCOVA

- ↙ LME

- Unifying and extending ANOVA and ANCOVA

- Using ML or ReML

- **Group Analysis**: What do we get out of the analysis

- ✎ Using an intuitive example of income (dependent variable)

- ✎ Factor A: sex (men vs. women)

- ✎ factor B: race (whites vs. blacks)

- ✎ Main effect

- ✎ *F*: general information about all levels of a factor

- ✎ Any difference between two sexes or races

- men > women; whites > blacks

- ✎ Is it fair to only focus on main effects?

- ✎ Interaction

- *F*: Mutual/reciprocal influence among 2 or more factors

- Effect of a factor depends on levels of other factors, e.g.,

- Black men < black women

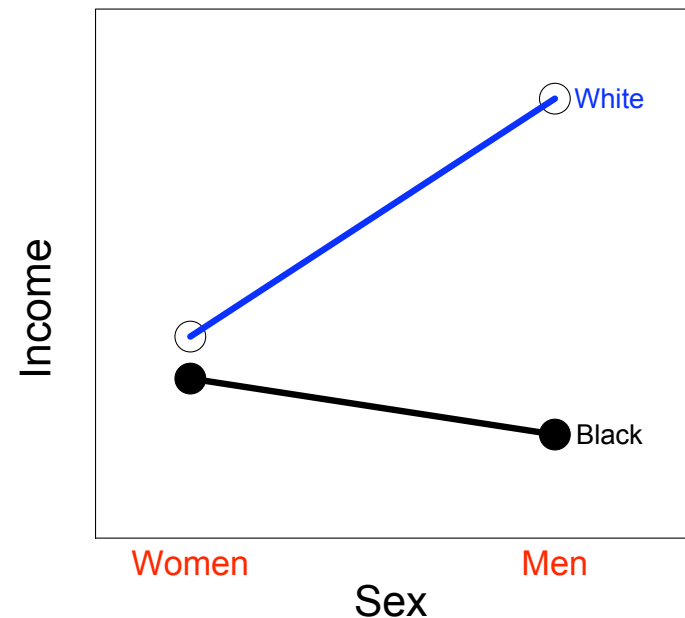
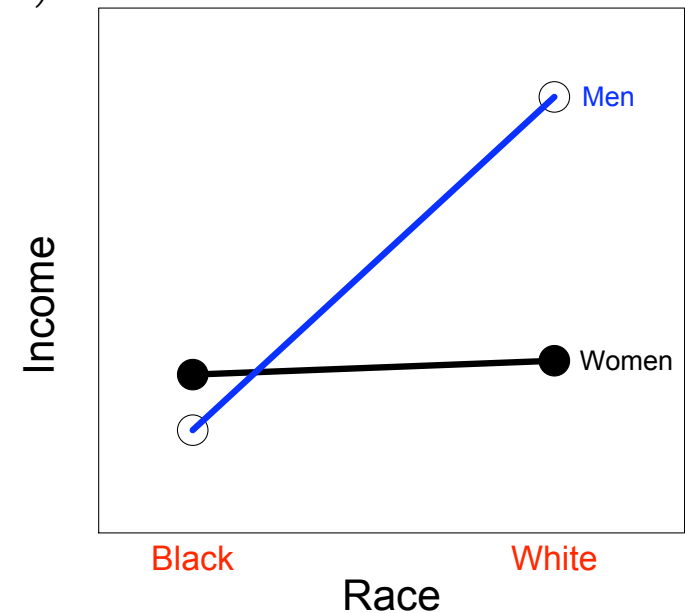
- Black women almost the same as white women

- Black men << white men

- ✎ General linear test

- Contrast

- General linear test (e.g., trend analysis)



- Group Analysis: Types

- 👉 Averaging across subjects (fixed-effects analysis)

- ↯ Number of subjects $n < 6$

- ↯ Case study: can't generalize to whole population

- ↯ Simple approach (**3dcalc**)

- $T = \sum t_{ii} / \sqrt{n}$

- ↯ Sophisticated approach

- $B = \sum (b_i / \sqrt{v_i}) / \sum (1 / \sqrt{v_i})$, $T = B \sum (1 / \sqrt{v_i}) / \sqrt{n}$, v_i = variance for i -th regressor

- $B = \sum (b_i / v_i) / \sum (1 / v_i)$, $T = B \sqrt{\sum (1 / v_i)}$

- Combine individual data and then run regression

- 👉 Mixed-effects analysis

- ↯ Number of subjects $n > 10$

- ↯ Random effects of subjects

- ↯ Individual and group analyses: separate

- ↯ Within-subject variation ignored

- ↯ Main focus of this talk

- Group Analysis: Programs in AFNI

- ✎ Non-parametric analysis

- ✎ $4 < \text{number of subjects} < 10$
 - ✎ No assumption of normality; statistics based on ranking
 - ✎ Programs
 - **3dWilcoxon** (\sim paired t -test)
 - **3dMannWhitney** (\sim two-sample t -test)
 - **3dKruskalWallis** (\sim between-subjects with **3dANOVA**)
 - **3dFriedman** (\sim one-way within-subject with **3dANOVA2**)
 - **Permutation test**
 - ✎ Multiple testing correction with FDR (**3dFDR**)
 - ✎ Less sensitive to outliers (more robust)
 - ✎ Less flexible than parametric tests
 - ✎ Can't handle complicated designs with more than one fixed factor

- **Group Analysis: Programs in AFNI**

- ☞ **Parametric tests (mixed-effects analysis)**

- ↙ Number of subjects > 10

- ↙ Assumption: Gaussian random effects

- ↙ Programs

- **3dttest** (one-sample, two-sample and paired t)

- **3dANOVA** (one-way between-subject)

- **3dANOVA2** (one-way within-subject, 2-way between-subjects)

- **3dANOVA3** (2-way within-subject and mixed, 3-way between-subjects)

- **3dRegAna** (regression/correlation, simple unbalanced ANOVA, simple ANCOVA)

- **GroupAna** (Matlab package for up to 5-way ANOVA)

- **3dLME** (R package for all sorts of group analysis)

- **Group Analysis: Planning for mixed-effects analysis**

- ☞ **How many subjects?**

- ⌞ Power/efficiency: proportional to \sqrt{n} ; $n > 10$
 - ⌞ Balance: Equal number of subjects across groups if possible

- ☞ **Input files**

- ⌞ Common brain in tlrc space (resolution doesn't have to be 1x1x1 mm³)
 - ⌞ Percent signal change (**not** statistics) or normalized variables
 - HRF magnitude: Regression coefficients
 - Linear combinations of β 's

- ☞ **Analysis design**

- ⌞ Number of factors
 - ⌞ Number of levels for each factor
 - ⌞ Factor types
 - Fixed (factors of interest) vs. random (subject)
 - Cross/nesting: Balanced? Within-subject/repeated-measures vs. between-subjects
 - ⌞ Which program?
 - **3dttest, 3dANOVA/2/3, GroupAna, 3dRegAna, 3dLME**

- **Group Analysis: Planning**

- ☞ **Thresholding**

- ↯ Two-tail by default in AFNI
 - ↯ If one-tail p is desirable, look for $2p$ on AFNI

- ☞ **Scripting – 3dANOVA3**

- ↯ **Three-way between-subjects (type 1)**

- 3 categorizations of groups: sex, disease, age

- ↯ **Two-way within-subject (type 4):** Crossed design $A \times B \times C$

- One group of subjects: 16 subjects
 - Two categorizations of conditions: A – category; B - affect

- ↯ **Two-way mixed (type 5):** $B \times C(A)$

- Nesting (between-subjects) factor (A): subject classification, e.g., sex
 - One category of condition (within-subject factor B): condition (visual vs. auditory)
 - Nesting: balanced

- Group Analysis: Example – 2-way within-subject ANOVA

```

3dANOVA3 -type 4 -alevels 3 -blevels 3 -clevels 16 \
-dset 1 1 1 stats.sb04.beta+tlrc'[0]' \
-dset 1 2 1 stats.sb04.beta+tlrc'[1]' \
-dset 1 3 1 stats.sb04.beta+tlrc'[2]' \
-dset 2 1 1 stats.sb04.beta+tlrc'[4]' \
...
-fa Category \
-fb Affect \
-fab CatXAff \
-amean 1 T \ (coding with indices)
-acontr 1 0 -1 TvsF \ (coding with coefficients)
-bcontr 0.5 0.5 -1 non-neu \ (coefficients)
-aBcontr 1 -1 0 : 1 TvsE-pos \ (coefficients)
-Abcontr 2 : 1 -1 0 EPosvsENeg \ (coefficients)

-bucket anova33

```

Model type,
Factor levels

Input for each cell in
ANOVA table:
totally 3X3X16 = 144

F tests: Main effects &
interaction

t tests: 1st order Contrasts

t tests: 2nd order
Contrasts

Output: bundled

- Group Analysis: GroupAna

- ✎ Multi-way ANOVA

- ✎ Matlab script package for up to 5-way ANOVA
 - ✎ Can handle both volume and surface data
 - ✎ Can handle up to 4-way unbalanced designs
 - Unbalanced: unequal number of subjects across groups
 - No missing data from subjects allowed
 - ✎ Downsides
 - Requires Matlab plus Statistics Toolbox
 - Slow (minutes to hours): GLM approach - regression through dummy variables
 - Complicated design, and compromised power
 - ✎ Solution to heavy duty computation
 - Input with lower resolution recommended
 - Resample with **adwarp -dxyz #** or **3dresample**
 - ✎ See <http://afni.nimh.nih.gov/sscc/gangc> for more info

- ✎ Alternative: **3dLME**

- **Group Analysis**: ANCOVA (ANalysis of COVAriances)

- ☞ **Why ANCOVA?**

- ⌞ Subjects or cross-regressors effects might not be an ideally randomized
 - ⌞ If not controlled, such variability will lead to loss of power and accuracy
 - ⌞ Different from **amplitude modulation**: **cross**-regressors vs. **within**-regressor variation
 - ⌞ Direct control via design: balanced selection of subjects (e.g., age group)
 - ⌞ Indirect (statistical) control: add covariates in the model
 - ⌞ Covariate (variable of no interest): uncontrollable/confounding, usually continuous
 - Age, IQ, cortex thickness
 - Behavioral data, e.g., response time, correct/incorrect rate, symptomatology score, ...

- ☞ **ANCOVA = Regression + ANOVA**

- ⌞ Assumption: **linear** relation between HDR and the covariate
 - ⌞ GLM approach: accommodate both categorical and quantitative variables

- ☞ **Programs**

- ⌞ **3dRegAna**: for simple ANCOVA
 - If the analysis can be handled with 3dttest without covariates
 - See <http://afni.nimh.nih.gov/sscc/gangc/ANCOVA.html> for more information
 - ⌞ **3dLME**: R package

• Group Analysis: 3dLME

☞ Linear regression vs. Linear mixed-effects (or hierarchical)

- ⌞ R package: Open source platform
- ⌞ Versatile: handles almost all situations in one package
 - Unbalanced designs (unequal number of subjects, missing data, etc.)
 - ANOVA and ANCOVA, but unlimited number of factors and covariates
 - Able to handle HRF modeling with basis functions
 - Violation of sphericity: heteroscedasticity, variance-covariance structure
 - Model fine-tuning
- ⌞ No scripting (input is bundled into a text file model.txt)
- ⌞ Disadvantages
 - High computation cost (lots of repetitive calculation)
 - Sometimes difficult to compare with traditional ANOVA
- ⌞ See <http://afni.nimh.nih.gov/sscc/gangc/lme.html> for more information

- Group Analysis: 3dLME

☞ Linear (Regression) model

$$\hookrightarrow y_i = \beta_0 + \beta_1 x_{1i} + \dots + \beta_p x_{pi} + \varepsilon_i, \varepsilon_i \sim N(0, \sigma^2), \text{ for } i\text{th subject}$$

$$\hookrightarrow Y = X\beta + \varepsilon, \varepsilon \sim N_n(0, \sigma^2 \Lambda_n), \text{ for each subject}$$

↪ Only one random-effect component, residual ε

☞ Linear mixed-effects (LME) model

$$\hookrightarrow y_{ij} = \beta_0 + \beta_1 x_{1ij} + \dots + \beta_p x_{pij} + b_{i1} z_{1ij} + \dots + b_{iq} z_{qij} + \varepsilon_{ij}$$

$$b_{ik} \sim N(0, \psi_k^2), \text{cov}(b_k, b_{k'}) = \psi_{kk'}, \varepsilon_{ij} \sim N(0, \sigma^2 \lambda_{ijj}), \text{cov}(\varepsilon_{ij}, \varepsilon_{ij'}) = \sigma^2 \lambda_{ijj'}$$

$$\hookrightarrow Y_i = X_i \beta + Z_i b_i + \varepsilon_i, b_i \sim N_q(0, \Psi), \varepsilon_i \sim N_{n_i}(0, \sigma^2 \Lambda_i), \text{ for } i\text{th subject}$$

↪ Two random-effect components: $Z_i b_i$ and ε_i

↪ AN(C)OVA can be incorporated as a special case

➤ n_i is constant (>1 , repeated-measures), $\Lambda_i = I_{n \times n}$ (iid)

• Group Analysis: 3dLME

👉 Running LME

⌚ Create a text file `model.txt` (3 fixed factors plus 1 covariate)

```
Data:Volume                                <-- either Volume or Surface
Output:FileName                            <-- any string (no suffix needed)
MASK:Mask+tlrc.BRIK                       <-- mask dataset
Model:Age+Gender*Object*Modality           <-- model formula for fixed effects
COV:Age                                    <-- covariate list
RanEff:1                                   <-- random effects
VarStr:0
CorStr:0
Clusters:4                               <-- number of parallel jobs
SS:sequential
MFace-FFace                              <-- contrast label
Male*Face*0*0-Female*Face*0*0             <-- contrast specification
MVisual-Maudial
Male*0*Visual*0-Male*0*Audial*0
.....
Subj      Gender      Object      Modality      Age      InputFile
Jim       Male        Face        Visual        25      file1+tlrc.BRIK
Carol    Female        House       Audial        23      file2+tlrc.BRIK
Karl     Male          House       Visual        26      file3+tlrc.BRIK
Casey    Female        Face        Audial        24      file4+tlrc.BRIK
.....
```

⌚ Run `3dLME.R MyOut &`

- Group Analysis: 3dLME

☞ HRF modeled with basis functions

⌞ Traditional approach: AUC

- Hard to detect shape difference
- Difficult to handle betas with mixed signs

⌞ LME approach

- Usually $H_0: \beta_1 = \beta_2 = \dots = \beta_k$ (not $H_0: \beta_1 = \beta_2 = \dots = \beta_k = 0$)
- But now we don't care about the differences among β 's
- Instead we want to detect shape difference
- Solution: take all β 's and model with **no intercept**
- But we have to deal with temporal correlations among β 's, $\Lambda_i \neq I_{n \times n}$
- For example, AR(1): 2 parameters σ^2 and ρ for the residuals

$$\sigma^2 \Lambda_i = \begin{pmatrix} \sigma^2 & \sigma^2 \rho & \dots & \sigma^2 \rho^{n_i-1} \\ \sigma^2 \rho & \sigma^2 & \dots & \sigma^2 \rho^{n_i-2} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \sigma^2 \rho^{n_i-1} & \sigma^2 \rho^{n_i-2} & \dots & \sigma^2 \end{pmatrix}$$

• Group Analysis: 3dLME

☞ Running LME: A more complicated example

⌞ HRF modeled with 6 tents

⌞ Null hypothesis: no HRF difference between two conditions

```
Data:Volume                <-- either Volume or Surface
Output:test                <-- any string (no suffix needed)
MASK:Mask+tlrc.BRIK       <-- mask dataset
Model:Time-1              <-- model formula for fixed effects
COV:                      <-- covariate list
RanEff:1                  <-- random effect specification
VarStr:0                  <-- heteroscedasticity?
CorStr:1~TimeOrder|Subj   <-- correlation structure
SS: sequential            <-- sequential or marginal
Clusters:4                <-- number of parallel jobs
```

Subj	Time	TimeOrder	InputFile
Jim	t1	1	contrastT1+tlrc.BRIK
Jim	t2	2	contrastT2+tlrc.BRIK
Jim	t3	3	contrast3+tlrc.BRIK
.....			

⌞ Output: F for H_0 , β and t for each basis function

- Group Analysis: 3dttest might be your good friend!

☞ Example: 2-way mixed ANOVA with unequal subjects

- ✧ Can't use 3dANOVA3 -type 5

- ✧ All the t tests can be done with 3dttest

- ✧ Even main effects and interaction can be obtained for 2×2 design

- ✧ A: Gender (M vs. F, between-subject); B: stimulus (House vs. Face, within-subject)

- ✧ Group difference on House: two-sample t -test

```
3dttest -set1 Male1House ... -set2 Female1House ... -prefix GroupHDiff
```

- ✧ Gender main effect

```
3dcalc -a Subject1House -b Subject1Face -expr 'a+b' -prefix Subject1H+F
```

(Or 3dMean -prefix Subj1CaT Subject1House Subject1Face)

```
3dttest -set1 Male1H+F ... -set2 Female1H+F -prefix HouseEff
```

- ✧ Interaction between Gender and Stimulus

```
3dcalc -a Subject1House -b Subject1Face -expr 'a-b' -prefix Subject1HvsF
```

```
3dttest -set1 Male1HvsF ... -set2 Female1HvsF -prefix Interaction
```

Multi-Voxel Statistics

**Spatial Clustering
&
False Discovery Rate:**

“Correcting” the Significance

Multiple Testing Corrections

- Two types of errors

- What is H_0 in FMRI studies? H_0 : no effect (activation, difference, ...) at a voxel
- Type I error = Prob(reject H_0 when H_0 is true) = false positive = p value
- Type II error = Prob(accept H_0 when H_1 is true) = false negative = β
- power** = $1 - \beta$ = probability of detecting true activation
- Strategy: control type I error while increasing power (decreasing type II errors)
- Significance level α (magic number 0.05) : $p < \alpha$

Justice System: Trial

Hidden Truth

	Defendant Innocent	Defendant Guilty
Reject Presumption of Innocence (Guilty Verdict)	Type I Error (defendant very unhappy)	Correct
Fail to Reject Presumption of Innocence (Not Guilty Verdict)	Correct	Type II Error (defendant very happy)

Statistics: Hypothesis Test

Hidden Truth

	H_0 True Not Activated	H_0 False Activated
Reject H_0 (decide voxel is activated)	Type I Error (false positive)	Correct
Don't Reject H_0 (decide voxel isn't activated)	Correct	Type II Error (false negative)

• Cluster Analysis: Multiple testing correction

👉 Family-Wise Error (FWE)

↯ Birth rate H_0 : sex ratio at birth = 1:1

➤ What is the chance there are 5 boys (or girls) in a family? $(1/2)^5 \sim 0.03$

➤ In a pool of 10000 families with 5 kids, expected #families with 5 boys =?
 $10000 \times (1/2)^5 \sim 300$

↯ Multiple testing problem: voxel-wise statistical analysis

➤ With n voxels, what is the chance to mistake \geq one voxel?

Family-Wise Error: $\alpha_{FW} = 1 - (1 - p)^n \rightarrow 1$ as n increases

➤ $n \sim 20,000$ -100,000 voxels in the brain

👉 Multiple testing problem in FMRI

↯ 3 occurrences of multiple tests: individual, group, and conjunction

↯ Group analysis is the most concerned

• Cluster Analysis: Multiple testing correction

👉 Approaches

↳ Control FWE

- Overall significance: $\alpha_{FW} = P(\geq \text{one false positive voxel in the whole brain})$
- Bonferroni correction: $\alpha_{FW} = 1 - (1 - p)^n \sim np$, if $p \ll 1/n$
 - * Use $p = \alpha/n$ as individual voxel significance level to achieve $\alpha_{FW} = \alpha$
 - * Too stringent and overly conservative: $p = 10^{-8} \sim 10^{-6}$
- Something to rescue?
 - * Correlation: Voxels in the brain are not independent
 - * Cluster: Structures in the brain
 - * Control FWE based on spatial correlation and cluster size

↳ Control false discovery rate (FDR)

- FDR = expected proportion of false + voxels among all detected voxels

- Cluster Analysis: **AlphaSim**

- 👉 **FWE in AFNI**

- ↳ Monte Carlo simulations with **AlphaSim**

- ↳ Named for Monte Carlo, Monaco, where the primary attractions are casinos

- ↳ Program: **AlphaSim**

- Randomly generate some number (*e.g.*, 1000) of brains with white noise

- Count the proportion of voxels are false + in **ALL** (*e.g.*, 1000) brains

- Parameters:

- * ROI - mask

- * Spatial correlation - FWHM

- * Connectivity – radius: how to identify voxels belong to a cluster?

- * Individual voxel significant level - uncorrected p

- Output

- * Simulated (estimated) **overall significance level** (corrected p -value)

- * Corresponding **minimum cluster size**

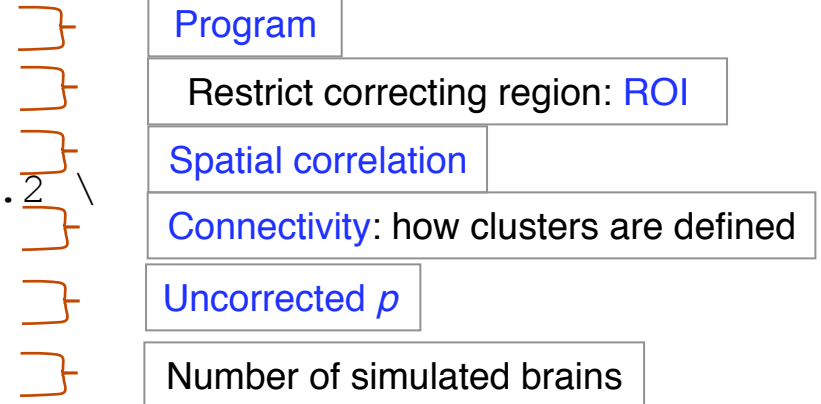
- **Cluster Analysis: AlphaSim**

- ↳ Program: **AlphaSim**

- See detailed steps at <http://afni.nimh.nih.gov/sscc/gangc/mcc.html>

- **Example**

```
AlphaSim \
-mask MyMask+orig \
-fwhmx 8.5 -fwhmy 7.5 -fwhmz 8.2 \
-rmm 6.3 \
-pthr 0.0001 \
-iter 1000
```



- Output: 5 columns

- * Focus on the 1st and last columns, and ignore others

- * 1st column: minimum cluster size in voxels

- * Last column: alpha (α), overall significance level (corrected p value)

Cl Size	Frequency	Cum Prop	p/Voxel	Max Freq	Alpha
2	1226	0.999152	0.00509459	831	0.859
5	25	0.998382	0.00015946	25	0.137
10	3	1.0	0.00002432	3	0.03

- May have to run several times with different uncorrected p

uncorrected $p \uparrow \leftrightarrow$ cluster size \uparrow

• Cluster Analysis: 3dFDR

👉 Definition

FDR = % false + voxels among all detected voxels in **ONE** brain

$$FDR = \frac{N_{ia}}{D_a} = \frac{N_{ia}}{N_{ia} + N_{aa}}$$

- ⌞ FDR only focuses on individual voxel's significance level within the ROI, but doesn't consider any spatial structure
 - spatial correlation
 - cluster size

👉 Algorithm

⌞ statistic (t) → p value → FDR (q value) → z score

👉 3dFDR is obsolete

- ⌞ Most programs automatically provide q values
- ⌞ If not, run 3drefit –addFDR

	Declared Inactive	Declared Active	
Truly Inactive	N_{ii}	$N_{ia} (I)$	T_i
Truly Active	$N_{ai} (II)$	N_{aa}	T_a
	D_i	D_a	

- **Cluster Analysis**: FWE or FDR?

- 👉 **FWE or FDR?** Correct type I error in different sense

- ↳ FWE: $\alpha_{FW} = P(\geq \text{one false positive voxel in the whole brain})$

- Frequentist's perspective: Probability among **many** hypothetical activation brains

- Used usually for parametric testing

- ↳ FDR = expected % false + voxels among all detected voxels

- Focus: controlling false + among detected voxels in **one** brain

- More frequently used in non-parametric testing

- ↳ Concrete example

- Individual (uncorrected) voxel $p = 0.001$ for a brain of 25,000 EPI voxels

- Uncorrected → 25 false + voxels in the brain

- FWE: corrected $p = 0.05 \rightarrow 5\%$ false + hypothetical brains for a fixed voxel location

- FDR: corrected $p = 0.05 \rightarrow 5\%$ voxels in those **positively** labeled ones are false +

- 👉 **Fail to survive correction?**

- ↳ Tricks

- One-tail?

- ROI – e.g., grey matter or whatever anatomical ROI you planned to look into

- ↳ Analysis on surface

- **Cluster Analysis**: Conjunction analysis

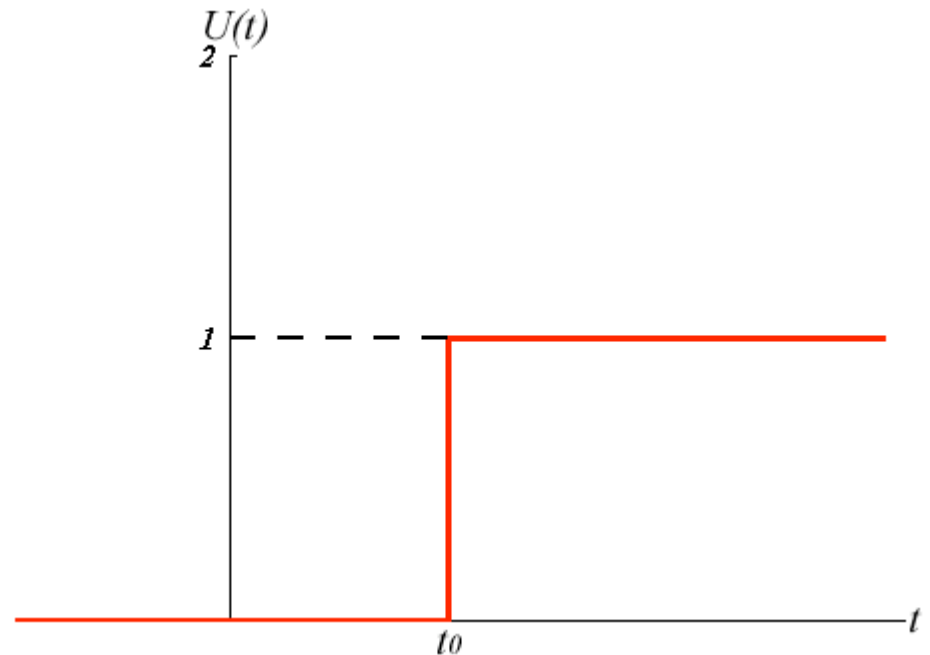
- 👉 **Conjunction analysis**

- ↯ Common activation area: intersection
 - ↯ Exclusive activations
 - ↯ With n entities, we have 2^n possibilities (review your combinatorics!)

- 👉 **Tool: 3dcalc**

- ↯ Heaviside unit (**step function**)
defines a *On/Off* event

$$U(t - t_0) = \begin{cases} 1 & t \geq t_0 \\ 0 & t < t_0 \end{cases}$$



- Cluster Analysis: Conjunction analysis

- 👉 Example

- ↯ 3 contrasts A, B, and C

- ↯ Assign each based on binary system: A: 001($2^0=1$); B: 010($2^1=2$); C: 100($2^2=4$)

- ↯ Create a mask with 3 sub-bricks of t (e.g., threshold = 4.2)

- ```
3dcalc -a ContrA+tlrc -b ContrB+tlrc -c ContrC+tlrc \
-expr '1*step(a-4.2)+2*step(b-4.2)+4*step(c-4.2)' \
-prefix ConjAna
```

- ↯ Interpret output - 8 ( $=2^3$ ) scenarios:

- 000(0): none;

- 001(1): A but no others;

- 010(2): B but no others;

- 011(3): A and B but not C;

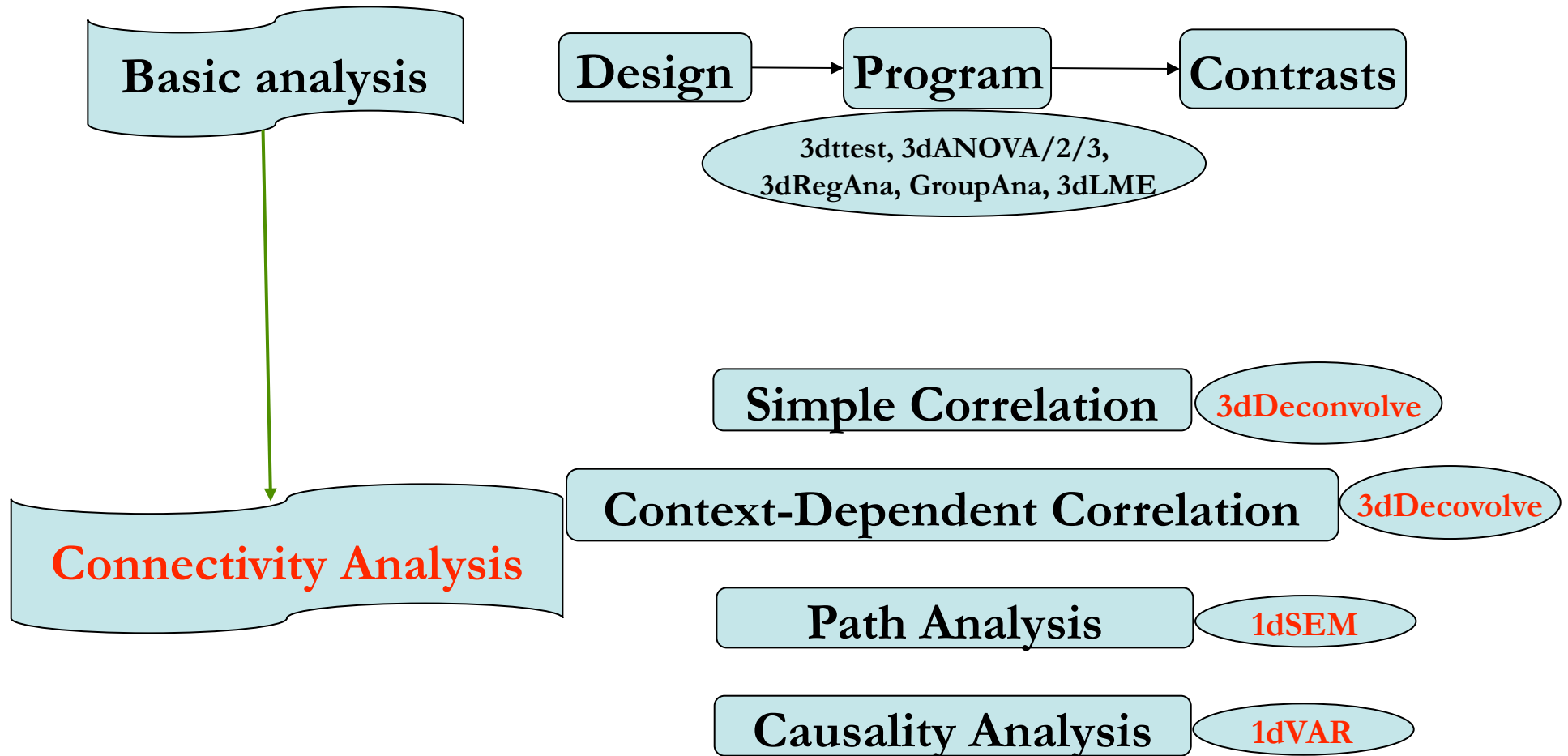
- 100(4): C but no others;

- 101(5): A and C but not B;

- 110(6): B and C but not A;

- 111(7): A, B and C

# Group Analysis





- Connectivity: Correlation Analysis

- ✎ Correlation analysis (aka functional connectivity)

- ✎ Similarity between a seed region and the rest of the brain
    - ✎ Says not much about causality/directionality
    - ✎ Voxel-wise analysis; Both individual subject and group levels
    - ✎ Two types: **simple** and **context-dependent** correlation (a.k.a. PPI)

- ✎ Steps at individual subject level

- ✎ Create ROI (a sphere around peak t-statistic or an anatomical structure)
    - ✎ Isolate signal for a condition/task
    - ✎ Extract seed time series
    - ✎ Run correlation analysis through regression analysis
    - ✎ More accurately, partial (multiple) correlation

- ✎ Steps at group level

- ✎ Convert correlation coefficients to  $Z$  (Fisher transformation): `3dcalc`
    - ✎ One-sample  $t$  test on  $Z$  scores: `3dttest`

- ✎ Interpretation, interpretation, interpretation!!!

- ✎ Correlation doesn't mean causation or/and anatomical connectivity
    - ✎ Be careful with group comparison!

## • Connectivity: Path Analysis or SEM

### 👉 Causal modeling (a.k.a. structural or effective connectivity)

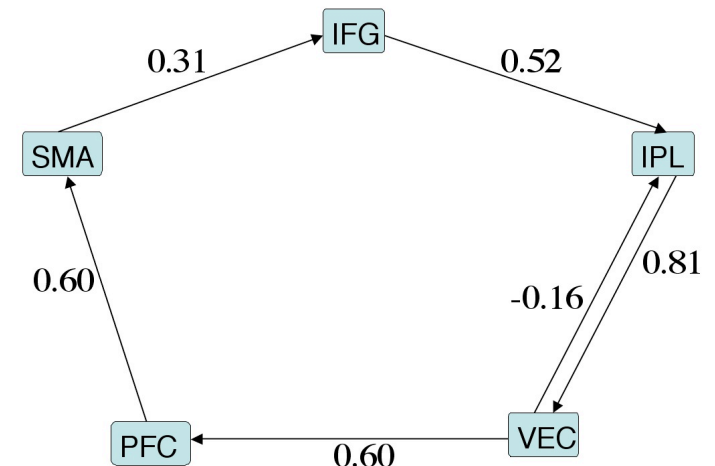
↙ Start with a network of ROI's

↙ Path analysis

- Assess the network based on correlations (covariances) of ROI's
- Minimize discrepancies between correlations based on data and estimated from model
- Input: Model specification, correlation matrix, residual error variances, DF
- Output: Path coefficients, various fit indices

↙ Caveats

- $H_0$ : It is a good model; Accepting  $H_0$  is usually desirable
- Valid only with the data and model specified
- No proof: modeled through correlation analysis
- Even with the same data, an alternative model might be equally good or better
- If one critical ROI is left out, things may go awry
- Interpretation of path coefficient: NOT correlation coefficient, possible  $>1$



- **Connectivity: Path Analysis or SEM**

- ☞ **Path analysis with 1dSEM**

- ⌞ **Model validation**: ‘confirm’ a theoretical model

- Null hypothesis: good model! Accept, reject, or modify the model?

- ⌞ **Model search**: look for ‘best’ model

- Start with a minimum model (1): can be empty

- Some paths can be excluded (0), and some optional (2)

- Model grows by adding one extra path a time

- ‘Best’ in terms of various fit criteria

- ⌞ More information <http://afni.nimh.nih.gov/sscc/gangc/PathAna.html>

- ☞ **Difference between causal and correlation analysis**

- ⌞ Predefined network (model-based) vs. network search (data-based)

- ⌞ Modeling: causation (and directionality) vs. correlation

- ⌞ ROI vs. voxel-wise

- ⌞ Input: correlation (condensed) vs. original time series

- ⌞ Group analysis vs. individual + group

- **Connectivity: Granger Causality or VAR**

- 👉 **Causal modeling** (a.k.a. structural or effective connectivity)

- ⌞ Start with a network of ROI's

- ⌞ Causality analysis through vector auto-regressive modeling (VAR)

- Assess the network based on correlations of ROIs' time series

- If values of region  $X$  provide statistically significant information about future values of  $Y$ ,  $X$  is said to Granger-cause  $Y$

- Input: time series from ROIs, covariates (trend, head motion, physiological noise, ...)

- Output: Path coefficients, various fit indices

- 👉 **Causality analysis with 1dGC**

- ⌞ Written in R

- ⌞ Can run both interactive and batch mode

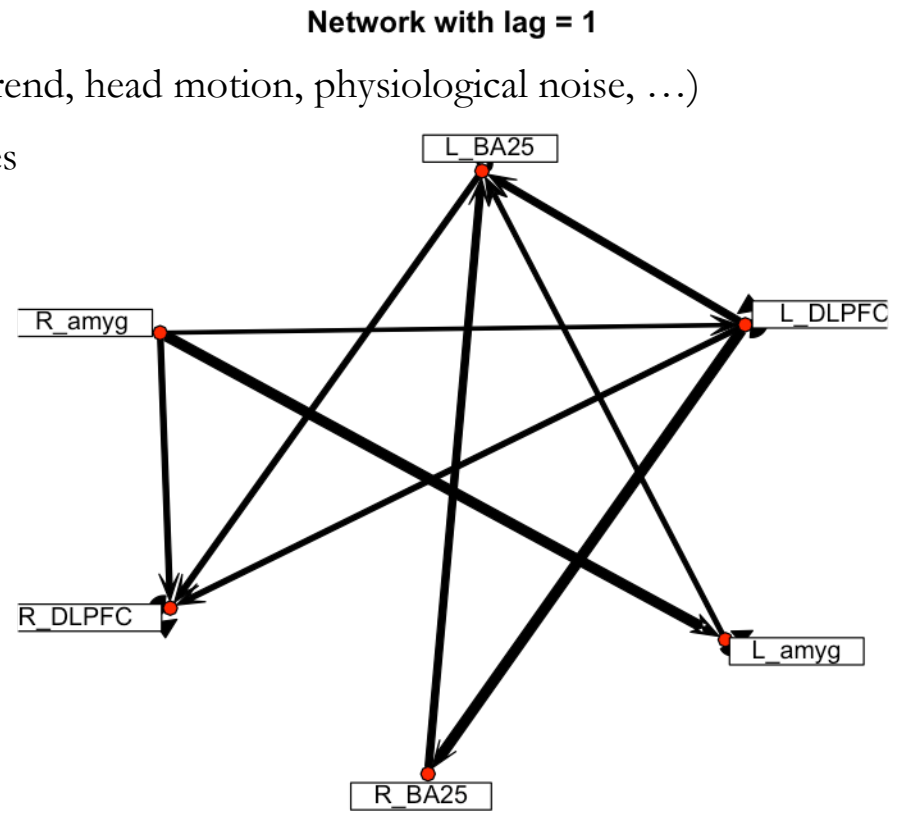
- ⌞ Generate a network and path matrix

- ⌞ A list of model diagnostic tests

- ⌞ Run group analysis on path coefficients

- 👉 **Causality analysis with 3dGC**

- ⌞ Seed vs. whole brain



- Connectivity: Granger Causality or VAR

- 👉 Causal modeling (a.k.a. structural or effective connectivity)

- ⌞ Caveats

- It has assumptions (stationary property, Gaussian residuals, and linearity)
      - Require accurate region selection: missing regions may invalidate the analysis
      - Sensitive to number of lags
      - Time resolution
      - No proof: modeled through statistical analysis
      - Not really cause-effect in strict sense
      - Interpretation of path coefficient: temporal correlation

- 👉 SEM versus VAR

- ⌞ Predefined network (model-based) among ROIs
    - ⌞ Modeling: statistical causation (and directionality)
    - ⌞ Input: correlation (condensed) vs. original time series
    - ⌞ Group analysis vs. individual + group

- Connectivity: Granger Causality or VAR

☞ Why temporal resolution is important?

